

09/807025

USPTO Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 APR 2001

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Robert Christiaan MAKKUS et al.

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

METHOD FOR COATING A SUPPORT
PLATE AND FUEL CELL PROVIDED
WITH SUCH A SUPPORT PLATE

#5/a
7/26/01

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action and calculation
of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified applica-
tion as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-9.

Add the following new claims:

—10. (new) Method for coating a non-oxidised
stainless steel support plate with an electrically conducting
corrosion-resistant coating, comprising applying a diffusion
barrier layer containing a titanium compound, followed by
applying a nickel layer, characterised in that applying said
diffusion barrier layer comprises the application of a
titanium oxide containing compound before applying said nickel
layer.

AC